

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
TO THE DORE AND BREDFORDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1941.

County Offices,  
Ross-on-Wye.

To the Chairman and Members of the Dore and Bredfordine Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lucas-Scudamore and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the District during the year 1941. This Report is very much abbreviated and is to be regarded as an interim report only.

In spite of the upheaval caused by the war, the health of the District has remained remarkably good, and as a result of the effort which the Council made for the immunisation of children against diphtheria, it is possible that the incidence of this disease may be still further reduced in the future.

I take this opportunity of placing on record, my appreciation of the support and assistance which the Council has afforded me throughout the year. This confidence is of considerable encouragement to the Officers of the Department and promotes efficiency.

Throughout the year, I have received much help and assistance in the discharge of my duties from Mr. F. Craze, Clerk to the Council, Mr. D. J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector and Miss Sayce, Chief Financial Officer.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lucas-Scudamore and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

William Stringer

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health:

WILLIAM HOGG, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.I.

Clerical Staff:

\* O.N. LITTLE.

\* U.E. PARTRIDGE.

\* Temporary Appointments.

County Offices,  
Alton Street,  
Ross-on-Wye.

Telephone - Ross 214.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

DAVID J. FRANCIS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Telephone - Peterchurch 241.

Urishay House,  
Peterchurch.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in acres) ... ... ...	86,043.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1941) according to rate books	2,134.
Rateable value ... ... ...	£21,122.
Sum represented by penny rate ... ... ...	£93.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the year:

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	... 15.6.
Stillbirths Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births ...	... 105.2.
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	... 13.9.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total Births.
Heading No. 29 ... Puerperal sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
" " 30 ... Other Puerperal Causes	Nil.	Nil.
	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:

All Infants per 1,000 live Births ... ... ...	... 55.1.
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live Birth ...	... 60.3.
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live Births	... nil.

SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities:-

The number of specimens examined by the County and City Public Health Laboratory during the year was as follows:-

Swabs - for Diphtheria Bacilla..	... ... ...	77.
Sputum- For Tuberculosis.	... ... ...	17.
Water - Chemical Examination.	... ... ...	4.
Bacteriological.	... ... ...	9.

SECTION C. - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Inspections:-

Slaughter Houses and Shops	... ... ...	190.
Bakehouses ... ... ...	... ... ...	28.
Schools ... ... ...	... ... ...	12.
Water Supplies.	... ... ...	100.
Nuisances ... ... ...	... ... ...	26.
Factories. ... ... ...	... ... ...	1.
Fruit and Hop-pickers accomadation	... ... ...	97.
Infectious Disease.	... ... ...	115.
Housing Consolidated Regulations. 1925	... ... ...	191.
Other Housing Inspections	... ... ...	104.
Cow Sheds and Dairies	... ... ...	300.
Petrol and Oil Stores	... ... ...	25.
Miscellaneous	... ... ...	1541.
Salvage	... ... ...	200.
		—
	Total.	<u>2960.</u>

Notices Issued:-

Informal. ... ... ...	... ... ...	48.
Statutory, re housing	... ... ...	nil.
Statutory under other Acts.	... ... ...	1.
		—
	Total.	<u>49.</u>

Summary of Defects Remedied:-

Drains relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31.
New Drains laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Drains Cleansed, trapped or ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.
Defective Waste pipes rectified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.
Defective Sinks and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
New Water closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.
Water closets repaired ventilated or provided with Cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.
Privies converted to Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Privies converted to Chemical Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.
Privies converted to Water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
New pail closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.
Pail Closets repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.
Privies and Ashpits cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Wells Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
Rooms Disinfected re Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72.
Schools Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.
Public Vehicles Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.
Dwelling Houses Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.
								Total	204.

School Closures:-

<u>School.</u>	<u>Period.</u>	<u>Causes.</u>
Michaelchurch Eskley.	6.1.41. - 10.1.41.	Whooping Cough.
Ewyas Harold.	13.1.41. - 17.1.41.	Measles.
Ewyas Harold C.	27.1.41. - 31.1.41.	Measles.
Dorestone.	7.2.41. - 14.2.41.	Coughs & Colds.
Kingstone & Thruxtion.	20.2.41. - 28.2.41.	Influenza.
Peterchurch.	21.2.41. - 28.2.41.	Influenza.
Peterchurch.	3.3.41. - 14.3.41.	Measles.
Dorestone.	13.3.41. - 28.3.41.	Measles.
Dorestone.	31.3.41. - 4.4.41.	Measles.
Dorestone.	7.4.41. - 10.4.41.	Measles.
Wormbridge.	23.5.41. - 30.5.41.	Chickenpox.
Wormbridge.	2.6.41. - 6.6.41.	Chickenpox.
Walterstone.	4.6.41. - 13.6.41.	Measles.
Garway.	25.6.41. - 8.7.41.	Whooping Cough.
Garway.	21.7.41. - 25.7.41.	Whooping cough.
Bredwardine.	19.11.41. - 28.11.41.	Coughs & Colds.

SECTION D . . . . . USING:-

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:-

1. (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 191.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 202.

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. ... ... 29.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after Service of Formal Notice. ... ... 1.

- (a) By Owners ... ... ... ... 1.
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners

SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF DAIRIES

Milk Supply:-

There were 387 premises in the District registered with the Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1926.

Food Inspected and Condemned:

Beef ... ... ... ... 470 lbs.  
Tinned Milk ... ... ... 12 tins.

SECTION F. - PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE:-

Notifiable Disease during the Year 1941:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Measles	217	nil
Whooping Cough	59	nil
Pneumonia	3	nil
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1
Scarlet Fever	2	1
Diphtheria	5	5

Analysis of Total Cases According to Age:-

Disease.	Age Groups.												Total.
	Under 1	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65 and over	
Measles	6	11	11	17	6	95	38	14	14	1	2	-	217
Whooping Cough	6	5	5	7	6	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	59
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	5
Totals.	12	16	16	25	15	127	40	16	17	3	2	-	289

TUBERCULOSIS:-

At the end of 1940 there were 24 cases of tuberculosis on the Register, 11 pulmonary and 13 non-pulmonary. During the year 1941, 7 cases were added to the Register, 5 pulmonary and two non-pulmonary. Eleven cases were removed from the Register during the year, 7 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary, and on the 31st December, 1941, 20 cases remain on the Register, 10 pulmonary and 10 non-pulmonary.

New Cases and Mortality during Year 1941:-

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
5+	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
15+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
35+	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-